

THE ONLY POCKET MAGAZINE.

This Day, February 1, 1798, is published, Price 1s.

NUMBER XIII.

(BEING THE FIRST NUMBER OF THE THIRD VOLUME)

OF THE

MONTHLY VISITOR,

AND

POCKET COMPANION,

FOR JANUARY, 1798.

BY A SOCIETY OF GENTLEMEN.

A VERY HIGHLY FINISHED PORTRAIT

OF

The late John Wilkes, Esq.

With his BIOGRAPHY, will appear in the present Number of THE MONTHLY VISITOR. This Number will likewise contain a great variety of original and interesting Matter; a Review of Literature, and of the Drama, &c. &c.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR THE PROPRIETORS:

And sold by H. D. SYMONDS, No. 20, Paternoster Row; where (*post paid*) Correspondents are requested to direct their Communications.

The Two First Volumes of THE MONTHLY VISITOR may be had, complete, Price 12s. in boards; or in Twelve Numbers, at 1s. each, embellished with the following Portraits:

CHATTERTON,
GIBBON,
ERSKINE,
WASHINGTON,

BUONAPARTE,
KOSCIUSKO,
BURKE,
ARCHDUKE CHARLES,

ZIMMERMAN,
MR. MURRAY,
THO. KEYSE, Esq.,
DR. KIPPIS.

WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE BIOGRAPHIES.

TO THE PUBLIC.

TO those who feel any respect for themselves, and who consider the estimation of others as no insignificant medium by which to adjust that respect, it is not easy to address the PUBLIC. They would neither approach that tribunal with insignificant professions, nor tedious complaints. They are solicitous that the audience which they ask, should be favourably heard and accepted. Under these impressions it is, that the CONDUCTORS OF THE MONTHLY VISITOR once more present themselves before the Public.

Having completed one year of their engagements, they deem it necessary to say a little of what may reasonably be expected from a continuation of the work. It has embraced a wide field. BIOGRAPHY, CRITICISM, MISCELLANEOUS LITERATURE, and POETRY.

The BIOGRAPHICAL DEPARTMENT of the Two First Volumes of THE MONTHLY VISITOR, has been conducted on an extensive scale; and hitherto unexampled in any periodical publication: comprising some of the most distinguished men, in various situations.

Our CRITICISM is independent. Farther it is not our province to speak; than that it embraces both Literature and the Drama.

The MISCELLANEOUS LITERATURE is mostly original, and by various hands. This also must speak for itself.

Of our POETRY, entitled THE PARNASSIAN GARLAND, we might yet be permitted to boast.

These are the principal departments.

Every Number has 108 pages of neatly printed letter-press; and though the size of the page is but octo-decimo, or eighteens, it comprises *two-thirds* of the matter extended to the OCTAVO of other publications. We speak more particularly of such as profess to be ELEGANT MAGAZINES; and we speak an *acknowledged fact*.

"Government and literature," says an eminent writer of this age, "are now more than ever intimately connected." With him we are convinced of this fact: and though it was far from our idea, in a Magazine devoted to literature, to have meddled with political concerns; we were obliged to observe at the commencement of our Second Volume, that Politics had become so intimate with Philosophy, as now and then to *force* themselves upon us. What then is the conduct which we have pursued? We trust that we have known no party but that of Religion and Social Order. We confess that we revere these bonds, and must revere them. But we have the consolation to believe, that the majority of the country revere them too. In this we hope we are not mistaken, since we continue to act on that belief. With all the arrangements which we have formed for the literary improvement of our work (and they are numerous and valuable) it becomes us to speak diffidently of them. But on our *principles* we are explicit; we may be bold. Boldness in such a case is candour. We are swayed, to this day, by all "the mean superstitions of the heart." We wish, in some respects, to ameliorate the state of man; or to see it ameliorated: but we do not think that Irreligion and Anarchy are favourable to such views. We love Philosophy: but it is PRACTICAL PHILOSOPHY that we love. We are no enemies to speculation: but it is speculation that *may* be reduced to practice, in conformity with the *moral* welfare of mankind.